

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A metallic conductor for a low-tension electrical conductor, the metallic conductor comprising an assembly of flexible wires each having a diameter of less than or equal to 0.61mm; wherein the conductor is arranged in a predetermined polygonal cross-section comprising one curved side and two straight sides, wherein the conductor is surrounded by a layer of an insulating material, and wherein the conductor is shape-maintaining such that it maintains the predetermined polygonal cross-section unless and until the layer of insulating material is removed by feeding the flexible wires through a mechanical deforming means and supplying the conductor to an extrusion means to keep the predetermined polygonal cross-section.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) A metallic conductor according to Claim 3, wherein the polygonal cross-section is a circular sector.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) A metallic conductor according to Claim 1 [[6]] , in which the

layer of insulating material is thermoplastic and/or thermosetting, such as polyethylene, polyester, fluorinated polymer, polyolefin, polyamide, polyimide, polyurethane, polyvinyl chloride, thermoplastic elastomer, ethylene-propylene, polychloroprene or silicone rubber, as well as their compounds and derivatives.

8. (Previously presented) A low-tension cable comprising a plurality of conductors according to claim 1, each of the conductors being electrically insulated from one another, and grouped together by a cabling process under a covering or a common binding element.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 8, wherein the predetermined polygonal arrangement is a circle.

12. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 8, wherein the predetermined polygonal arrangement is a rectangle.

13. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 11, wherein the cable comprises conductors of different polygonal cross-sections.

14. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 8, wherein the predetermined

polygonal arrangement is surrounded by at least one layer of a protective material.

15. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 14, wherein the layer of protective material is a metallic protective material.

16. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 15, wherein the layer of protective material is a thermoplastic and/or thermosetting polymeric protective material.

17. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 14, wherein the layer of protective material is a textile material applied as a protective belt.

18. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 15, wherein the predetermined polygonal arrangement is surrounded by a combination of layers of protective material.

19. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a metallic conductor ~~according to Claim 1, characterized in that the method comprises~~ comprising the steps of:

providing an assembly of flexible wires each having a diameter of less than or equal to 0.61mm;

deforming, using a mechanical means of deformation, a metallic conductor that comprises an the assembly of flexible round metallic wires and arranging the wires to form a metallic conductor having in a predetermined polygonal cross-section comprising one curved side and two straight sides, the diameter of each wire being less than or equal to 0.61mm, and

extruding, using an extrusion means, the metallic conductor obtained in the preceding operation; and

surrounding the extruded metallic conductor in a layer of insulating material whereby the conductor is shape-maintaining such that it maintains the predetermined polygonal cross-section unless and until the layer of insulating material is removed.

20. (Previously presented) A cable according to Claim 12, wherein the cable comprises conductors of different polygonal cross-sections.

21. (Previously presented) A cable according to claim 8, wherein the cable is sufficiently flexible to meet classes V and VI of IEC-60228 standard.

22. (Previously presented) A cable according to claim 8, wherein the cable is sufficiently flexible to permit coiling of the cable on a spool.

23. (Currently amended) A flexible electric and/or communication cable consisting of:

a plurality of metallic conductors; each of the conductors comprising a plurality of wires having a diameter of less than or equal to 0.61mm and an insulating layer enveloping the wires; wherein the wires and the insulating layer are constructed and arranged to form a conductor that has ~~having~~ a predetermined polygonal cross-section having a curved side and that maintains the predetermined polygonal cross-section unless and until the insulating layer is removed; and

a flexible protective sheath covering the plurality of metallic conductors.

24. (Canceled)